GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:159
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
AWARENESS OF MSP
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government knows that poor are not aware about the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme;

(b) if so, whether any efforts have been made by the Government in coordination with respective State Government to create awareness amongst the farmers about MSP;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any Impact Assessment Survey has been conducted to determine the extent of deprivation of benefits of MSP to the farmers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (e): According to Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers conducted by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in its 59th Round (January − December, 2003), 71 per cent of farmers did not know or understand the concept of Minimum Support Price (MSP). 10 per cent understood what MSP meant but not of the procurement agency. Remaining 19 percent understood the idea of MSP and also knew the procurement agency.

To create awareness among farmers, support is provided to the States in strengthening extension programmes through schemes like support to State Extension Programmes, Mass Media Support to Agriculture, Kisan Call Centres and Establishment of Agri-Clinic and Agri- Business Centres. Further, these are displayed in the Department`s website, Mass Media Programmes and exhibitions/Kishan melas.